THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
12¢
THE Fantastic Four
MC
5 JULY
"MEET... DOCTOR DOOM!"
WITH A TURN OF THIS DIAL, I SHALL DESTROY THE FOUR OF YOU, FOREVER!!
AIR
I'VE GOT TO REACH HIM! HE'S DRAINING THE AIR OUT OF THE ROOM! I CAN'T BREATHE! MY--MY STRENGTH IS EBBING!
AIR!! I GOTTA HAVE AIR!
MY FLAME IS DYING WITHOUT OXYGEN! I'M HELPLESS!
I MUST GET IN TO SAVE THEM! BUT HOW? HOW??

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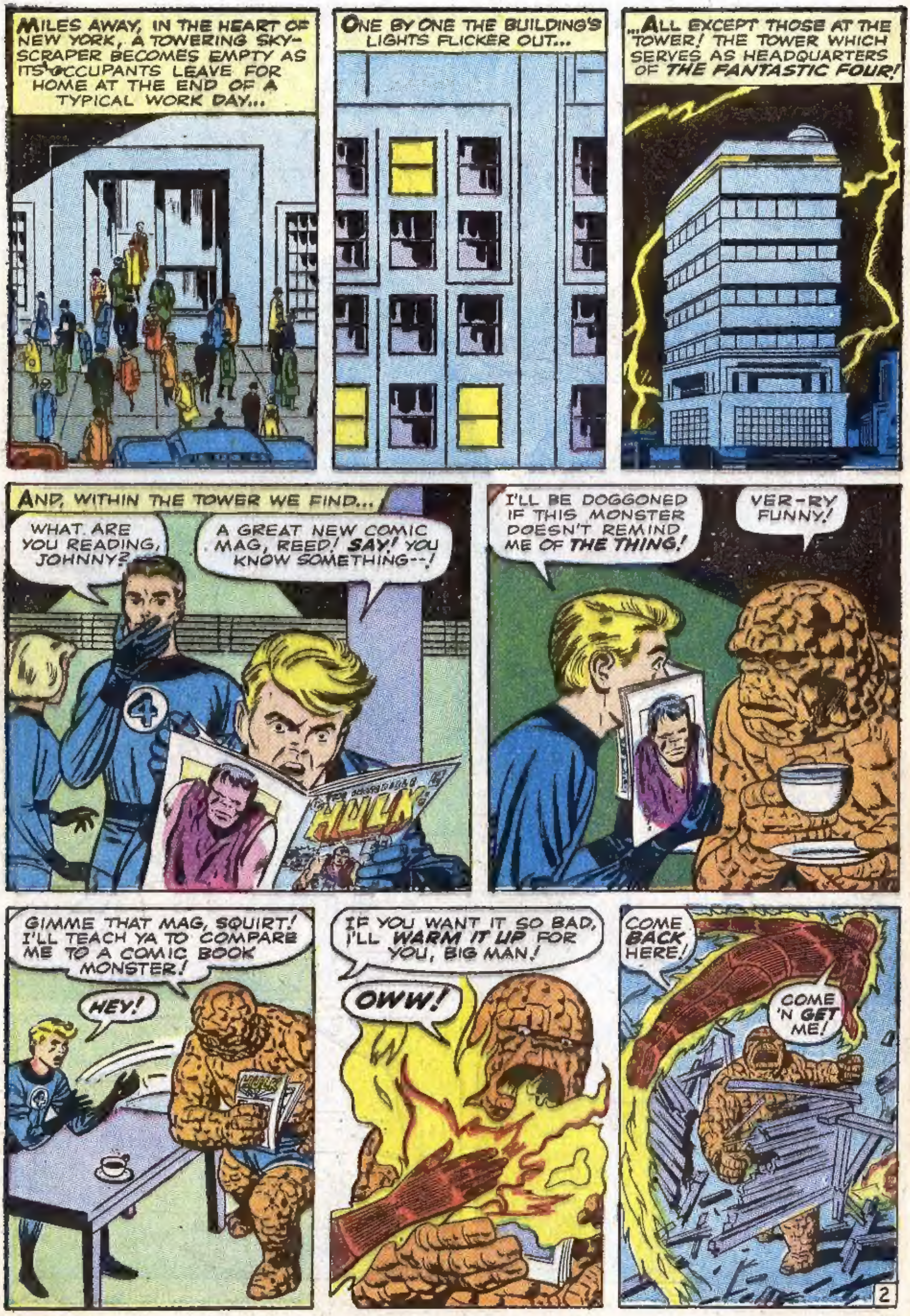
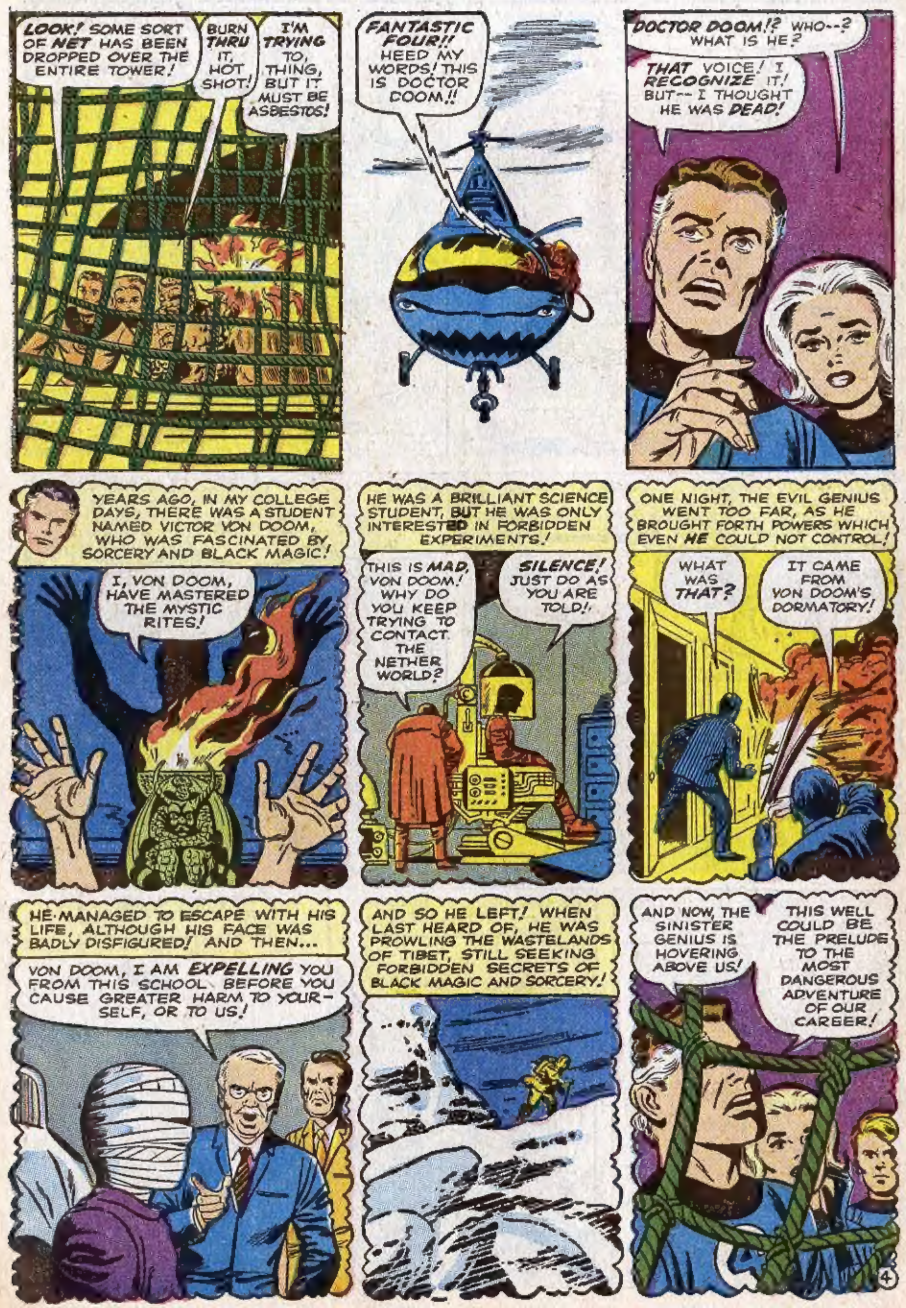
THE FANTASTIC FOUR, IN...
"PRISONERS OF DOCTOR DOOM!"
THE FANTASTIC FOUR!! HAH! LITTLE DO THEY DREAM THEY ARE NAUGHT BUT PAWNS IN THE HANDS OF DOCTOR DOOM!
PART 1
Stan Lee + J. KIRBY
DEMONS
SCIENCE AND SORCERY
BUT NOW IT IS TIME TO LET THE FANTASTIC FOUR FEEL MY MIGHT!
...FOR OF ALL THE HUMANS ON EARTH, ONLY I HAVE THE POWER TO DEFEAT THEM!
1


MILES AWAY, IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK, A TOWERING SKY-SCRAPER BECOMES EMPTY AS ITS OCCUPANTS LEAVE FOR HOME AT THE END OF A TYPICAL WORK DAY...
ONE BY ONE THE BUILDING'S LIGHTS FLICKER OUT...
...ALL EXCEPT THOSE AT THE TOWER! THE TOWER WHICH SERVES AS HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
AND, WITHIN THE TOWER WE FIND...
WHAT ARE YOU READING, JOHNNY?
A GREAT NEW COMIC MAG, REED! SAY! YOU KNOW SOMETHING--!
HULK
I'LL BE DOGGONED IF THIS MONSTER DOESN'T REMIND ME OF THE THING!
VER-RY FUNNY!
GIMME THAT MAG, SQUIRT! I'LL TEACH YA TO COMPARE ME TO A COMIC BOOK MONSTER!
HEY!
IF YOU WANT IT SO BAD, I'LL WARM IT UP FOR YOU, BIG MAN!
OWW!
COME BACK HERE!
COME 'N GET ME!
2

YOU'RE DURNED RIGHT I'LL GET YOU, TORCH! AND WHEN I DO--
STOP HIM, REED!
THING! KNOCK IT OFF!!
THIS WILL COOL YOU OFF, KID BROTHER!
AW, SUE! I WAS JUST HAVING A LITTLE FUN!
FUN? YOU TWO WON'T BE SATISFIED TILL YOU'VE PULVERIZED EACH OTHER!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE FOUR OF US? WHENEVER WE'RE NOT FIGHTING SOME MENACE TO MANKIND, WE END UP FIGHTING AMONG OURSELVES!
SKIP THE LECTURE, PAL! I'M A BIG BOY NOW!
REED! WHAT HAPPENED?? THE LIGHTS ALL WENT OUT!
IMPOSSIBLE! WE HAVE OUR OWN GENERATOR HERE!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY SOME MORE POWERFUL FORCE! BUT-- WHAT?
FOR THE ANSWER, LET US LOOK UP AT THE SKY, OUTSIDE THE TOWER!
SOON I WILL HAVE THEM TRAPPED AND COMPLETELY AT MY MERCY!
NOTHING CAN ESCAPE MY LITTLE WEB!
NOT EVEN THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
3


LOOK! SOME SORT OF NET HAS BEEN DROPPED OVER THE ENTIRE TOWER!
BURN THRU IT, HOT SHOT!
I'M TRYING TO, THING, BUT IT MUST BE ASBESTOS!
FANTASTIC FOUR!! HEED MY WORDS! THIS IS DOCTOR DOOM!!
DOCTOR DOOM!? WHO--? WHAT IS HE?
THAT VOICE! I RECOGNIZE IT! BUT-- I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD!
YEARS AGO, IN MY COLLEGE DAYS, THERE WAS A STUDENT NAMED VICTOR VON DOOM, WHO WAS FASCINATED BY SORCERY AND BLACK MAGIC!
I, VON DOOM, HAVE MASTERED THE MYSTIC RITES!
HE WAS A BRILLIANT SCIENCE STUDENT, BUT HE WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN FORBIDDEN EXPERIMENTS!
THIS IS MAD, VON DOOM! WHY DO YOU KEEP TRYING TO CONTACT THE NETHER WORLD?
SILENCE! JUST DO AS YOU ARE TOLD!
ONE NIGHT, THE EVIL GENIUS WENT TOO FAR, AS HE BROUGHT FORTH POWERS WHICH EVEN HE COULD NOT CONTROL!
WHAT WAS THAT?
IT CAME FROM VON DOOM'S DORMATORY!
HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE WITH HIS LIFE, ALTHOUGH HIS FACE WAS BADLY DISFIGURED! AND THEN...
VON DOOM, I AM EXPELLING YOU FROM THIS SCHOOL BEFORE YOU CAUSE GREATER HARM TO YOUR-SELF, OR TO US!
AND SO HE LEFT! WHEN LAST HEARD OF, HE WAS PROWLING THE WASTELANDS OF TIBET, STILL SEEKING FORBIDDEN SECRETS OF BLACK MAGIC AND SORCERY!
AND NOW, THE SINISTER GENIUS IS HOVERING ABOVE US!
THIS WELL COULD BE THE PRELUDE TO THE MOST DANGEROUS ADVENTURE OF OUR CAREER!
4

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE..

Address YOUR letters to:
THE EDITOR
FANTASTIC FOUR
THIRD FLOOR
655 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

FANTASTIC FAN PAGE 4

DEAR EDITOR:

. . . FF #3 was excellent! The feud angle made it all the better though, particularly the ending. The continuity in FF is all that could possibly be asked. I've just subscribed to FF for two years – I hope it runs much much longer than that.

Roy Thomas
Sullivan, Mo.

So do we, Roy, so do we!

DEAR EDITOR:

. . . Bill Sarill states that the Thing ought to revert to human form at will. Why? The Thing's inability to look human is unique and without it the FF would be just a league of super-heroes. Instead of the name "Mr. Fantastic" how about "Mr. Elastic"?

Mike Randall
Atchison, Kansas

Thanks, Mike. Now let's get some more opinions.

DEAR EDITOR:

. . . Why does everybody know who their human identities are? Shouldn't they be kept secret?

Rick McGuire
Parsons, Kansas

Maybe so, Rick, but how do you keep a flaming teenager, a four-story skyscraper hideout with a built-in rocket launcher, etc. a secret? Besides, remember us saying in an earlier issue that we wanted our stories to be different, and perhaps a bit more logical?

DEAR EDITOR:

The FF is fantastic, wonderful, and amazing! But how about more action with Invisible Girl?

Scotty Smith
Anchorage, Alaska

How do you MEAN that, bub? Anyhow, we'll have a talk with Sue and tell her to ham it up a bit more, okay? That is, if we can FIND her!

DEAR EDITOR:

I have just read "The Menace of the Miracle Man" and it was terrific. But, when I turned to your letters page, I was sorrow stricken. This insult was entirely uncalled for. The only reason fans write is because they feel they have become personal friends with the editors. I will continue to read your mag, but I won't enjoy it as much as previously.

William J. Marcolongo
Philadelphia, Pa.

Aw, Bill, don't be mad! The only reason we mention that we can't answer letters personally is so that you WON'T be offended if you receive no letter. Surely you can understand that we don't have time to answer dozens of letters daily and still edit magazines! Of course, we could always have some office boy answer them and sign our name, but we don't believe in kidding the reader. Dig?

DEAR EDITOR:

While the third issue of FF was the best yet, I think your covers are too crowded. Also, I'd like to read longer letters on the Fan Pg. And keep your sense of humor bottled up, too. And please, no more monsters. Now here's what I do like: The new costumes, the skyscraper hideout, the Fantasticar. Also, the rivalry between characters is excellent, as is the fact that no member has a secret identity. The Human Torch is your strongest character – so original. And I'd like a new name for Mr. Fantastic.

Roger Mann
Minneapolis, Minn.

No comment yet, pal. We're still trying to decide if you're for us or agin' us!

DEAR EDITOR:

How about having a 25¢ comic of the FF? It's great!

Harold McIntosh
Marblehead, Mass.

Can't do it yet, Hal, but tell you what – if you wanna pay 25¢ for the mag now, be our guest. The dealers will love you!

DEAR EDITOR:

Why has the thing four fingers instead of five? It's a terrific mag and gets better each issue. My friends and I have a FF Fan Club.

Cruz Jiminez
Ft. Riley, Kansas

Lots of readers have asked about the Thing's fingers. What bugs US is: if you don't question a man becoming a monster, a boy turning into flame, a human body stretching at will, then WHY does everyone object to one itsy-bitsy missing finger? Anyway, by way of explanation, we'll take the easy way out and blame it on the cosmic rays! And, good luck with your club, Cruz. Where do we apply?

DEAR EDITOR:

. . . The FF is interesting and different than any other comic mag. But I'd like to request that the Thing be able to become human at will.

William Frazier
Mt. Sterling, Ky.

YOU'D like to request it? What do you think the THING would like? Well, mebbe some day . . .

DEAR EDITOR:

You boast on your cover "The Greatest Comic Magazine in the World." Good for you. And the way you answer some of those wiseacres does my heart good. I've just about HAD it with nice, polite editors making excuses for goody-goody comic heroes! I like your unusual and true-to-life personal conflicts among the four – hope you retain that realism. And I like the name Mr. Fantastic. Glad you didn't call him Stretch-O, Elastic Man, Capt. Rubber, or some such junk. I like the Thing, the full-length stories, etc. BUT, on the cover of FF #3 the Torch had two left hands!

Ronn Foss
Suisun, Calif.

But he DID have five fingers on each, huh Ronn?

Well, that's it for now. We're learning a lot from your letters. We've learned that you do like the name "MR. FANTASTIC" and that you don't like it. You do like the Thing and you don't like him. Well, we can't please everyone, but we're sure gonna try. Keep your letters coming, don't get too angry at us, and always face front!

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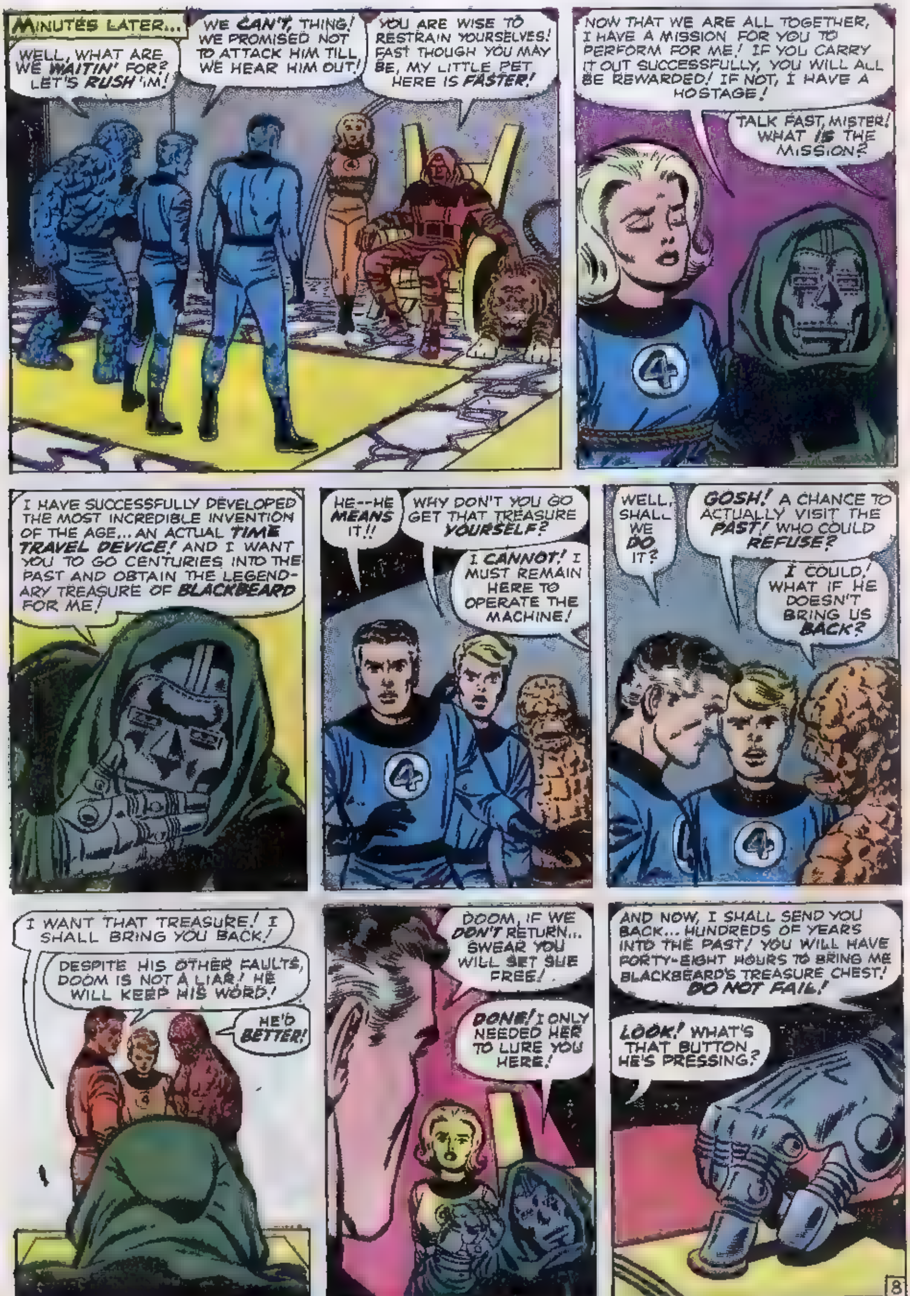
Name
Address

PART 2
Stan Lee & J. Kirby
"BACK TO THE PAST!"
NOW THAT THE INVISIBLE GIRL IS MY HOSTAGE, I SHALL GIVE YOU YOUR ORDERS! FIRST, I WANT YOU ALL TO BOARD MY PLANE, AND YOU MUST SWEAR YOU WILL NOT ATTACK ME!
HE'S TAKING SUE ABOARD HIS SHIP!
LISTEN! HE'S SPEAKING TO US AGAIN!
IF YOU AGREE, FIRE YOUR FLARE GUN AGAIN!
GIMME THAT GUN! WE'RE GOIN' ON HIS PLANE! WE'RE NOT LETTIN' HIM GET AWAY FROM US!
REED, WHAT IF DOCTOR DOOM TRIES TO KILL US WHEN WE BOARD HIS PLANE?
EASY, JOHNNY! HE WANTS MORE THAN OUR DEATH! THIS IS PART OF SOME STRANGE MASTER PLAN, AND WE MUST SEE IT THRU!
V-735
6

AH! THEY AGREE TO BOARD MY SHIP, AS I PLANNED THEY WOULD! I KNEW MISTER FANTASTIC COULD NOT RESIST TRYING TO LEARN WHAT MY MISSION IS!
ONE FLIP OF A SWITCH AND THEY WILL BE MINE!
HOLY SMOKE, REED! THIS DOCTOR DOOM CHARACTER MUST BE A REAL WIZARD AT INVENTING THINGS!
I TOLD YOU HE IS AN EVIL GENIUS! WE MUST NEVER UNDERESTIMATE HIM!
SO FAR MY PLAN IS WORKING WITHOUT A HITCH!
THEN, WITH A SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED SURGE OF ROCKET POWER THE HELICOPTER BLAZES THRU THE SKY AT ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE SPEED!
WE WILL REACH MY CASTLE STRONGHOLD WITHIN MINUTES!
AND NOW, MY RELUCTANT PASSENGERS, WELCOME TO THE HOME OF DOCTOR DOOM!
IT--IT'S A REGULAR FORTRESS!
7



MINUTES LATER...
WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITIN' FOR? LET'S RUSH 'IM!
WE CAN'T, THING! WE PROMISED NOT TO ATTACK HIM TILL WE HEAR HIM OUT!
YOU ARE WISE TO RESTRAIN YOURSELVES! FAST THOUGH YOU MAY BE, MY LITTLE PET HERE IS FASTER!
NOW THAT WE ARE ALL TOGETHER, I HAVE A MISSION FOR YOU TO PERFORM FOR ME! IF YOU CARRY IT OUT SUCCESSFULLY, YOU WILL ALL BE REWARDED! IF NOT, I HAVE A HOSTAGE!
TALK FAST, MISTER! WHAT IS THE MISSION?
I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOPED THE MOST INCREDIBLE INVENTION OF THE AGE... AN ACTUAL TIME TRAVEL DEVICE! AND I WANT YOU TO GO CENTURIES INTO THE PAST AND OBTAIN THE LEGENDARY TREASURE OF BLACKBEARD FOR ME!
HE--HE MEANS IT!!
WHY DON'T YOU GO GET THAT TREASURE YOURSELF?
I CANNOT! I MUST REMAIN HERE TO OPERATE THE MACHINE!
WELL, SHALL WE DO IT?
GOSH! A CHANCE TO ACTUALLY VISIT THE PAST! WHO COULD REFUSE?
I COULD! WHAT IF HE DOESN'T BRING US BACK?
I WANT THAT TREASURE! I SHALL BRING YOU BACK!
DESPITE HIS OTHER FAULTS, DOOM IS NOT A LIAR! HE WILL KEEP HIS WORD!
HE'D BETTER!
DOOM, IF WE DON'T RETURN... SWEAR YOU WILL SET SUE FREE!
DONE! I ONLY NEEDED HER TO LURE YOU HERE!
AND NOW, I SHALL SEND YOU BACK... HUNDREDS OF YEARS INTO THE PAST! YOU WILL HAVE FORTY-EIGHT HOURS TO BRING ME BLACKBEARD'S TREASURE CHEST! DO NOT FAIL!
LOOK! WHAT'S THAT BUTTON HE'S PRESSING?

IT'S THE TIME TRAVEL MACHINE!
WE WERE STANDING ON IT ALL THE TIME!
REED! JOHNNY! THING! BE CAREFUL!! PLEASE... BE CAREFUL!!
THEY'RE GONE!
YES! GONE TO BRING ME THE GEMS WHICH, UNKNOWN TO THEM, WILL MAKE DOCTOR DOOM RULER OF EARTH!
-GASP- IT WORKED!! LOOK! LOOK WHERE WE ARE!
WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST! WE'VE ONLY GOT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS!
THE FIRST THING WE NEED ARE SOME CLOTHES! WE'RE MUCH TOO CONSPICUOUS IN OUR COSTUMES!
I STOLE THESE CLOTHES, YE SWAB! THEY'RE MINE!
YE MISERABLE SEA DOG! YE SWORE TO DIVIDE THE BOOTY WITH ME!
I SAY THEY'RE MINE! WANNA MAKE SOME-THIN' OUT OF IT??
FLEE!! 'TIS A DEMON!
PERFECT! A WHOLE BUNDLE OF SUITS AND BOOTS!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

Ever think of the big money you could earn as an Auto Mechanic?

You can't appreciate your opportunities for success in the auto-repair field unless you weigh a few facts. Did you know that 68 million cars and trucks are now on the road? That 44 million of these are in the heavy-repair class? That America is short 100,000 mechanics? That only 10 percent of the required number to fill waiting jobs are in training? That there is enough work for 25,000 more automotive repair shops?

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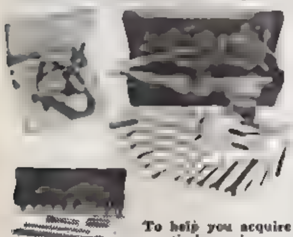
So practical many students earn cash in spare time

You learn by practicing with tools and tune-up kit



To help you acquire practical experience as you train, CTI sends (and shows you how to use), an engine tune-up kit and a set of mechanic's tools, including a socket set. Precision instruments [illegible] gauge and fuel pump tester; ignition timing light; and portable steel case. Instruments help you locate engine troubles quickly. Tools speed your training, inspire confidence, and let you earn spare-time profits. No extra charge for CTI professional-quality kits. (Tune-up kit is a CTI "first.")

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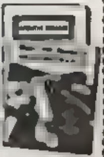

ACCREDITED BY NATIONAL HOME STUDY COUNCIL

PART 3
"ON THE TRAIL OF BLACKBEARD"
STAN LEE • J. KIRBY
HOURS LATER, THE THING IS FIRST TO AWAKEN...
...SLOWLY, SILENTLY, HE LOOKS ABOUT HIM...
...ONLY TO FIND THAT THEY ARE LOCKED IN THE MUSTY HOLD OF A PIRATE SHIP!

WHILE UP ON DECK...
WAKEN THE PRISONERS! PUT THEM TO WORK! MOVE, YOU SWABS!
SINCE WHEN DO YOU GIVE ORDERS HERE, MISTER SPLINY! I'M AS FIT TO COMMAND AS ANY!
I'LL SHOW YE WHO GIVES THE ORDERS, YE MISERABLE LUBBER!
YAH!
ALL RIGHT, BOYS--YOUR LITTLE GAME IS OVER NOW!!
WHO DARES--? URRP!
I DARE!!
BIT OFF A LITTLE MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW, HUH?? COME 'N GET IT, PLAYMATES!
Y'KNOW, JOHNNY, I FEEL SORRY FOR THOSE PIRATES! THEY'RE ONLY A DOZEN OF 'EM AGAINST THE THING!
YEAH! HE'S GOT 'EM OUTNUMBERED!
LOOK OUT!
BAM!
THAT WASN'T VERY SOCIABLE, SAILOR!
12

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

1001 THINGS
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GIFT
BOOKS
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STEP ASIDE, GENTS! I'LL SOFTEN 'EM UP A BIT FIRST!
THE YOUTH IS MAD!
FLAME ON!
STAN LEE + J. KIRBY
BATTLE!
PART 4
AVAST!! WE ARE ATTACKED BY A FLAMING DEMON!
V-735
14

THAT WAS ONLY A SAMPLE!
NOW I'LL REALLY TURN ON SOME STEAM!
BY HITTING THE WATER WITH MY BLAZING BODY, I CAN SET UP A CLOUD OF STEAM WHICH WILL CONCEAL OUR NEXT MOVE!
OKAY, THING! THE TORCH STARTED HIS STEAMING SMOKE SCREEN! THAT'S OUR CUE! LET'S GO!!
HOW DO WE GET OVER THERE, BIG BRAIN?!
LIKE THIS!!
WELL, SHAKE A LEG, FELLA! I CAN'T STAY THIS WAY ALL DAY!
HE CAN STAY THAT WAY FOREVER FOR ALL I CARE!
WELL, IF WE'RE GONNA HAVE US A LITTLE SWINGIN' SESSION, I'LL GRAB SOMETHING TO SWING WITH!
JUST YOU STAY THERE NICE AND COMFY, RUBBER MAN, WHILE WE MUSS UP THE BIG BAD PIRATES FOR YA!
HURRY UP, THING! MY BACK FEELS LIKE IT'S BREAKING!
15

YAHOO! GO GET 'EM, BOYS!
FOLLOW THE BLACK-BEARDED ONE! ATTACK!
THEY FIGHT LIKE DEMONS POSSESSED! WE HAVE NO CHANCE!
AND, BRIEF MINUTES LATER...
HOORAY FOR THE MIGHTY BEARDED ONE!
HOORAY FOR BLACKBEARD!
HAIL BLACKBEARD! SCOURGE OF THE SEVEN SEAS!
BLACKBEARD?? BUT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT THE THING!
GOOD LORD!! I SEE IT NOW! THE THING IS BLACKBEARD! HE CAME BACK TO THE PAST TO FIND ...HIMSELF!
THEN THIS TREASURE WHICH WE JUST FOUND IN THE HOLD BELONGS TO US NOW!
OR, ACTUALLY IT BELONGS TO BLACKBEARD... FOR THE MEN HAVE CHOSEN HIM AS THEIR LEADER!
WOW! LOOK AT THIS STUFF!
THIS IS TERRIF! WE COME TO THE PAST TO FIND THE TREASURE OF BLACKBEARD ...AND IT TURNS OUT TO BE OURS!
SORRY, MEN, BUT IT WON'T BE OURS! WE'LL DIVIDE IT AMONG THE MEN! IF DOCTOR DOOM WANTED IT, THERE MUST BE SOME DANGEROUS POWER WHICH IT POSSESSES, AND WE'VE GOT TO SEE THAT HE NEVER GETS IT!
INSTEAD, WE'LL LOAD THIS CHEST WITH WORTHLESS CHAINS FOR DOCTOR DOOM! FOR, NOW THAT WE FULFILLED OUR PROMISE TO DOOM, WE CAN RETURN TO OUR OWN AGE!
WE KEPT OUR WORD! WE ARE BRINGING HIM BLACKBEARD'S TREASURE CHEST!
FOR WE NEVER PROMISED TO BRING THE TREASURE ITSELF!
16

YOU TWO CAN GO BACK IF YOU WANNA! AS FOR ME, I LIKE IT HERE!
REED! HE ACTUALLY ENJOYS BEING BLACKBEARD!
BUT HE CAN'T REMAIN HERE IN THE PAST!
WHY CAN'T I STAY? THE FUTURE HOLDS NOTHING FOR ME! IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY I'M NOTHIN' BUT A MONSTER... A FREAK!
BUT HERE I'M SOMEBODY! I'M A LEADER OF MEN! I'M A CAPTAIN! I'M THE GUY WHO STARTED THE LEGEND OF BLACKBEARD! THE KIDS WILL READ ABOUT ME IN SCHOOL SOME DAY! I AIN'T GIVIN' THIS UP ...NEVER!
AND I'LL MAKE SURE YOU TWO DON'T TRY TO TAKE ME BACK! TIE 'EM UP, MEN-- FAST!
DON'T BE SCARED OF THE TORCH! HE'S STILL SOAKIN' WET! HE CAN'T FLAME ON YET!
THAT'S IT! WRAP A SAIL AROUND MR. FANTASTIC! IT WON'T DO HIM ANY GOOD TO STRETCH IF HE'S GOT NO PLACE TO STRETCH OUT OF!
NOW PUT 'EM OVER THE SIDE IN A LIFE BOAT! BY THE TIME THEY GET FREE WE'LL HAVE LOST OURSELVES IN THE FOG!! THEY'LL NEVER FIND US AGAIN!
THING! DON'T DO IT!! DON'T CUT YOURSELF OFF FROM US! YOU MUSTN'T! YOU'LL REGRET IT SOME DAY!! DON'T DO IT!!
AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AS THOUGH IN ECHO TO THE TORCH'S WORDS...
AHOY, ALL HANDS!! TWISTER AHEAD!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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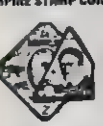

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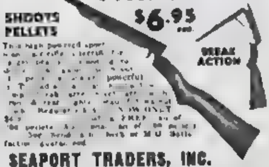

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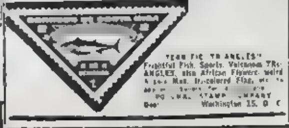

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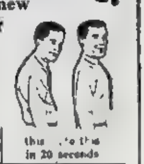

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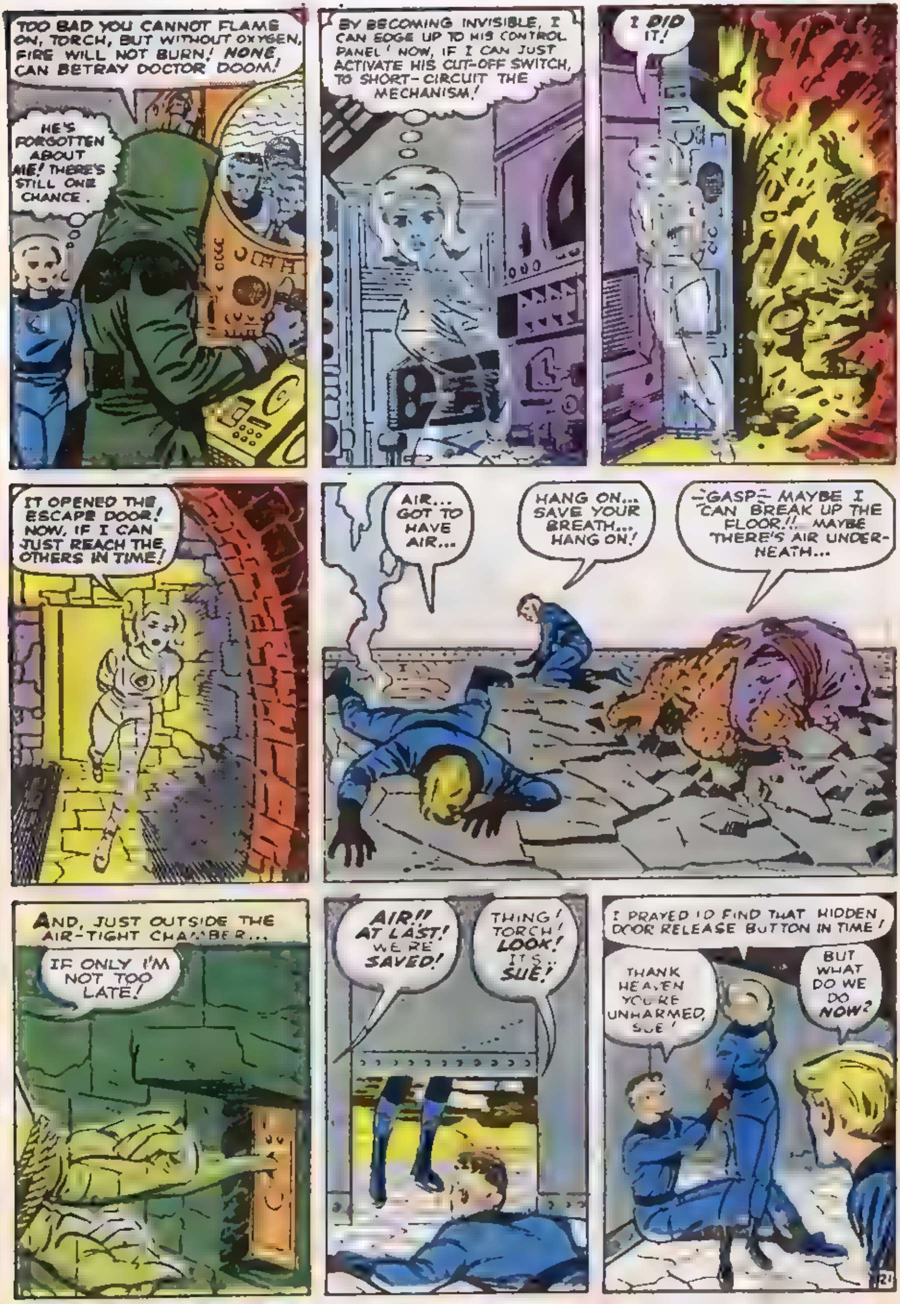
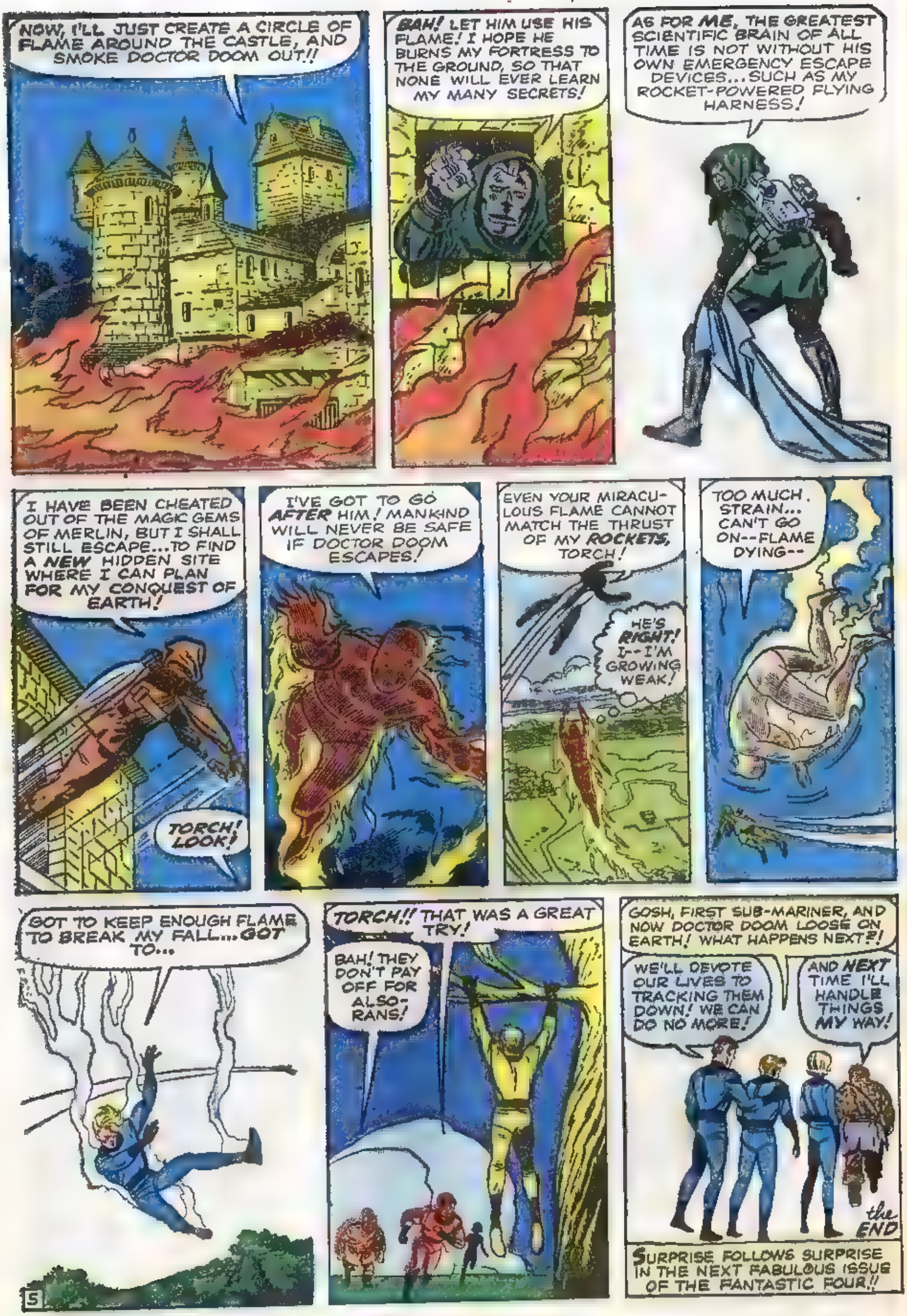
PART 5
"the VENGEANCE of DOCTOR DOOM!"
LOOK!! FLOATING IN THE AIR, ABOVE US!
STAND STILL! DON'T MOVE!
IT'S THE CIRCUIT OF DOCTOR DOOM! WE'RE ABOUT TO BE RETURNED TO THE PRESENT!
AH!! MY THREE EMISSARIES! YOU HAVE RETURNED! AS I KNEW YOU WOULD!
Stan Lee + J. KIRBY
V-735
19

* 'SUB-MARINER'!.. SEE FANTASTIC FOUR, ISSUE #4, MAY



TOO BAD YOU CANNOT FLAME ON, TORCH, BUT WITHOUT OXYGEN, FIRE WILL NOT BURN! NONE CAN BETRAY DOCTOR DOOM!
HE'S FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME! THERE'S STILL ONE CHANCE.
BY BECOMING INVISIBLE, I CAN EDGE UP TO HIS CONTROL PANEL! NOW, IF I CAN JUST ACTIVATE HIS CUT-OFF SWITCH, TO SHORT-CIRCUIT THE MECHANISM!
I DID IT!
IT OPENED THE ESCAPE DOOR! NOW, IF I CAN JUST REACH THE OTHERS IN TIME!
AIR... GOT TO HAVE AIR...
HANG ON... SAVE YOUR BREATH... HANG ON!
-GASP- MAYBE I CAN BREAK UP THE FLOOR!!.. MAYBE THERE'S AIR UNDERNEATH...
AND, JUST OUTSIDE THE AIR-TIGHT CHAMBER...
IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE!
AIR!! AT LAST! WE'RE SAVED!
THING! TORCH! LOOK! IT'S... SUE!
I PRAYED TO FIND THAT HIDDEN DOOR RELEASE BUTTON IN TIME!
THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE UNHARMED, SUE!
BUT WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
21

DO? I'M GONNA TAKE THIS JOINT APART TILL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT DOOM CREEP!
NO! HOLD IT! HE'S PROBABLY GOT EVERY INCH OF THIS CASTLE BOOBY-TRAPPED
YOU'RE RIGHT, REED! HE MUST HAVE RECOVERED BY NOW AND HE'LL BE MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER!
BUT WE'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING!
WE WILL! BUT WE'LL DO IT MY WAY! WATCH...
ALL I NEED IS SOMETHING STRONG TO HOLD ON TO, AND THEN...
PUSH, THING! PUSH!!
WITH PLEASURE, BUB!
WE'RE FREE! BUT WE'VE STILL GOT TO CROSS THIS MOAT!
SO WE CAN FIGHT HIM ON OUR TERMS, NOT HIS!
HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TRY FOR MONTHS...
BY GIVING MY FLAME THE INTENSITY OF ATOMIC HEAT, I CAN ACTUALLY BOIL A SECTION OF THE WATER AWAY AND FUSE THE GROUND, TURNING IT INTO A GLASS-LIKE SUBSTANCE!
HE DID IT!! THE TORCH DID IT!
THIS SURE BEATS SWIMMIN' THRU A MESS OF CROCS ANY DAY!



NOW, I'LL JUST CREATE A CIRCLE OF FLAME AROUND THE CASTLE, AND SMOKE DOCTOR DOOM OUT!!
BAH! LET HIM USE HIS FLAME! I HOPE HE BURNS MY FORTRESS TO THE GROUND, SO THAT NONE WILL EVER LEARN MY MANY SECRETS!
AS FOR ME, THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC BRAIN OF ALL TIME IS NOT WITHOUT HIS OWN EMERGENCY ESCAPE DEVICES...SUCH AS MY ROCKET-POWERED FLYING HARNESS!
I HAVE BEEN CHEATED OUT OF THE MAGIC GEMS OF MERLIN, BUT I SHALL STILL ESCAPE...TO FIND A NEW HIDDEN SITE WHERE I CAN PLAN FOR MY CONQUEST OF EARTH!
TORCH! LOOK!
I'VE GOT TO GO AFTER HIM! MANKIND WILL NEVER BE SAFE IF DOCTOR DOOM ESCAPES!
EVEN YOUR MIRACULOUS FLAME CANNOT MATCH THE THRUST OF MY ROCKETS, TORCH!
HE'S RIGHT! I--I'M GROWING WEAK!
TOO MUCH STRAIN... CAN'T GO ON--FLAME DYING--
GOT TO KEEP ENOUGH FLAME TO BREAK MY FALL...GOT TO...
TORCH!! THAT WAS A GREAT TRY!
BAH! THEY DON'T PAY OFF FOR ALSO-RANS!
GOSH, FIRST SUB-MARINER, AND NOW DOCTOR DOOM LOOSE ON EARTH! WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?!
WE'LL DEVOTE OUR LIVES TO TRACKING THEM DOWN! WE CAN DO NO MORE!
AND NEXT TIME I'LL HANDLE THINGS MY WAY!
the END
SURPRISE FOLLOWS SURPRISE IN THE NEXT FABULOUS ISSUE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR!!
5

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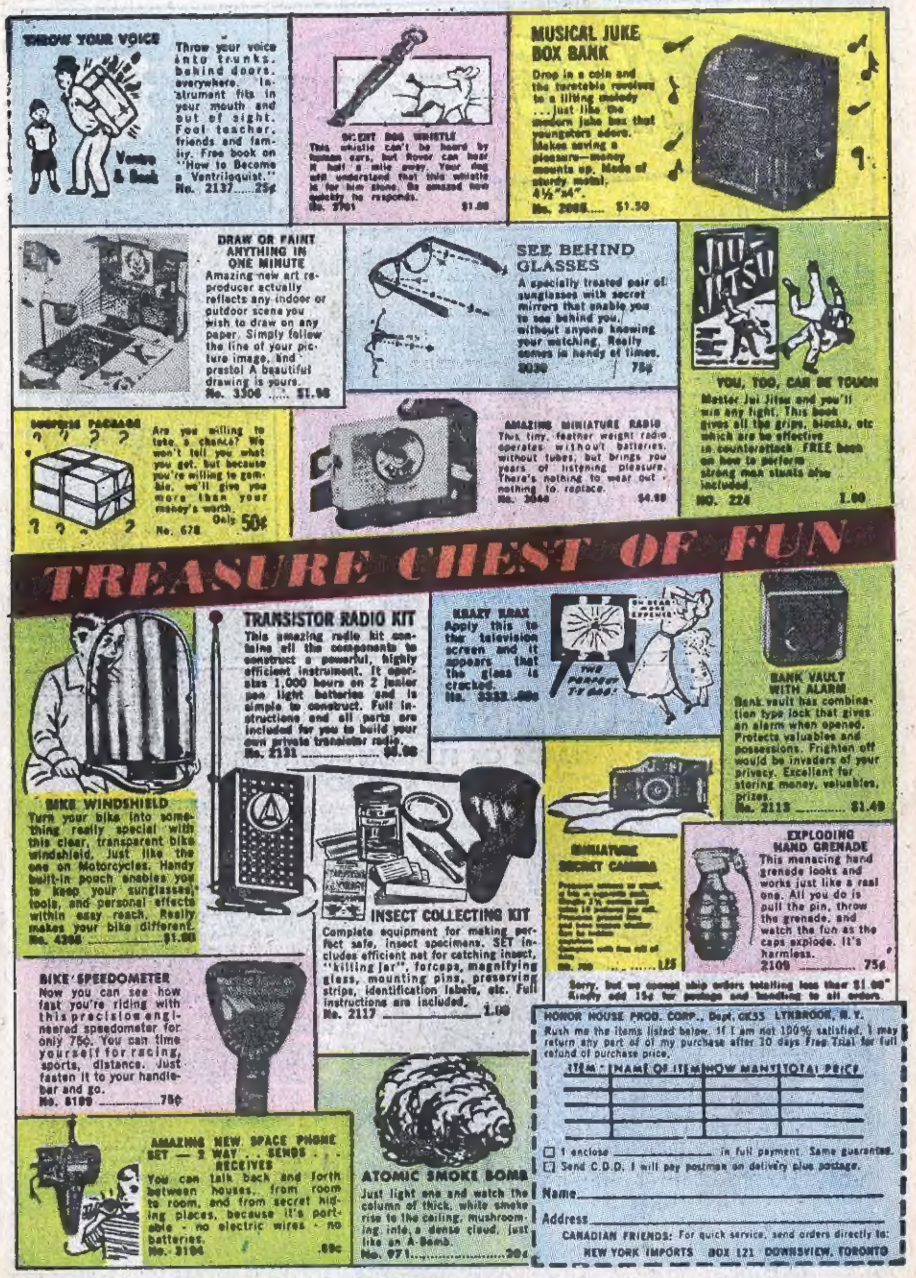
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Albert Dorne – probably the greatest money-maker in the history of commercial art. At the height of his career, he began a full-time search for people who like to draw.

He's Looking for People Who Like to Draw

TODAY HUNDREDS of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working happily at easels and drawing boards, making pictures, and getting well paid for it. They all can thank Albert Dorne, a famous artist who devotes almost his full time to helping other people become artists.

Some of the people Dorne has helped

Herb Smith was a payroll clerk. Soon after he started studying with us, he landed an art job with a large printing firm. This was four years ago; today he's head artist for the same firm.

John Busketta is another. He was a pipefitter's helper in a big gas company. Today he still works for the same company, but as an artist in the advertising department, with a big increase in pay.

Harriet Kuzniewski was bored with an "ordinary" job before she heard of Albert Dorne. Today she does high-style fashion illustration in New York.

With the right training, Wanda Pickulski gave up her typing job to become fashion artist for a local department store.

John Whitaker of Memphis was an airline clerk two years ago. Recently he won a national cartooning contest and was signed to do a newspaper comic strip.

Long before Albert Dorne started looking for people who like to draw, they came to him for advice and help. Since he alone could only help a few of these people he called together America's most successful artists —men like Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Stevan Dohanos and Al Parker.

A Plan to Help Others

He said: "All over America, there are people who like to draw, who could be turned into good artists. Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years? I'm suggesting a new kind of school—a home-study art school that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live."

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they spent several years creating a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, the famous artists developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

Albert Dorne is not surprised by the success of his students. "The art field is growing. We keep getting calls from all over the country, asking us for practical, well-trained students who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs."

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the famous artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid $1 for this test, but now the School offers it free and will grade it free. If you show talent on the test, you will be eligible for training by the School. No obligation. Simply mail coupon. It might be your first step to an exciting, well-paid career in art.

America's 12 Most Famous Artists

Norman Rockwell	Fred Ludekens
Jon Whitcomb	Ben Stahl
Al Parker	Robert Fawcett
Stevan Dohanos	Austin Briggs
George Giusti	Harold Von Schmidt
Peter Helck	Albert Dorne

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5606, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test.

Mr.
*Mrs.*____________ *Age*______
Miss *(please print)*
*Address*____________

*City*____________ *Zone*______

*County*____________ *State*______

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